

Abstract

Apparatus for gravel packing a wellbore interval with enclosed alternate flowpaths (i.e. conduits) that can provide a good distribution of gravel over the entire completion interval. The alternate flowpaths for the slurry are positioned in the annulus formed by the base pipe and the external surface of the screen, and connected to corresponding exit nozzle chambers positioned at different levels on the screen, and therefore do not significantly increase the overall effective outside diameter of the screen.

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